Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OPR-01 SY-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04

SIL-01 NIC-01 TRSE-00 EURE-00 OC-05 CCO-00 A-01 /092 W

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PR 041732Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1941

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, SP, PO

SUBJ: ANARCHISTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST SPAIN

REF: (A) LISBON 1143; (B) LISBON 5347

1. IN EARLY EVENING OF MARCH 3, SMALL GROUP, IDENTIFIED ONLY AS ANARCHISTS, DEMONSTRATED IN DOWNTOWN LISBON IN FAVOR OF THE "STRUGGLE OF THE SPANISH" WORKERS. RALLY HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED IN ANONYMOUS PAMPHLETS LAST WEEK (REFTEL A). THERE WAS SOME QUESTION AS TO HOW GOP WOULD HANDLE EVENT IN VIEW GOP SENSITIVITY TO ANYTHING THAT COULD OFFEND SPANISH. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 2. AN ON-THE-SCENE OBSERVER REPORTED THAT THE DEMONSTRATORS WERE OUTNUMBERED BY THE 200 MARINES SENT BY COPCON TO DEAL WITH SITUATION. DEMONSTRATORS WAVED THEIR BLACK FLAGS OUTSIDE THE SPANISH CHANCERY, THREW ROCKS AT IBERIA OFFICE (HITTING ADJACENT ALITALIA), AND ENDED UP WITH THEIR DWINDLING RANKS BEING THROWN OUT OF LOCAL DRUGSTORE, WHERE THEY HAD GONE TO EAT.
- 3. COMMENT: LAST ANTI-SPANISH DEMONSTRATION WAS BANNED BY GOP (REFTEL B). ALTHOUGH GOP PROBABLY KNEW THT ANARCHISTS' AFFAIR WOULD BE MINOR EVENT, IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT NO EFFORT WAS MADETO EITHER PREVENT IT FROM HAPPENING OR TO RESTRAIN WINDOW-SMASHING ACTIVITIES. ONCE AGAIN, IT APPEARS THAT SECURITY FORCES SOUGHT TO AVOID HEAD-ON CONFRONTATION--EVEN WITH VERY SMALL GROUP OF DEMONSTRATORS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, LABOR, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975| ISBON01201

Document Number: 1975LISBON01201 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750075-0888

From: LISBON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750385/aaaacynk.tel Line Count: 76 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL OFFICI

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 14 MAY 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ANARCHISTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST SPAIN TAGS: PFOR, PINT, ELAB, SP, PO
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006